

**Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment**

1. The amendment filed on 02/06/2008 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action of 06/01/2007 because of the following matter(s):

2. Amended claims 1, 2, 11-12, 14-15, 20-21, 25, 34-35, and 71-75 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons:

The amended claims 1, 2, 11-12, 14-15, 20-21, 25, 34-35, and 71-75 have separate utility such as having a hardware managed stack to hold a plurality of VMX mask word values corresponding to a plurality of virtual machines (VMs), wherein a current VMX mask word value of the plurality of VMX mask word values is to be utilized to mask access by the current VM to a VMX control word without regard to an invalidation operation belonging to a non-empty set of invalidation operations composed of a union of five (i.e., (1),(2),(3),(4) and (5)) possibly empty sets of operations.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 11-12, 14-15, 20-21, 25, 34-35, and 71-75 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

***Conclusion***

3. Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to reply, applicant is given a **TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS**, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.**

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to **Yong Choe** at telephone number **571-270-1053**. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am to 5:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Sanjiv Shah** can be reached on **571-272-4098**. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PMR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-irect.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 2188

YC

Yong J. Choe

Examiner / Art Unit 2185

/Gary J Portka/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2188